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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JAN 0 8 2004

Applicants: Shantanu V. Kaushikkar

Serial No: 09/682,074

Filing Date: July 17, 2001

Title: System, Method, and Computer Software Product For Specifying A Scanning Area Of A Substrate

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Examiner: Demetrius R. Pretlow

Group Art Unit: 2863

Jee Only

AMENDMENT/ RESPONSE

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed July 16, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections and reexamination of the present application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

An Appendix including excerpted pages from a merger agreement is attached following page 15 of this paper.

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CONCLUSION

For these reasons, Applicants believe all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions pertaining to this application or feels that a telephone conference would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application, please do not hesitate to call the undersigned at (781) 280-1522.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 01-0431.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. McCarthy, III

Reg. No. P-55,788

Attachments

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